(i) Regular bilateral discussions at official and ministerial level and exchange of trad and industry delegations

(ii) Participation in trade fairs, exhibitions, seminars, training programmes, and buyer-seller meets;

(iii) Execution of Trade Promotion Programmes in sectors such as textiles, engineering, electronic goods, leather of footwear, gems and jewellery, fisheries, computer software, etc. with financial and technical assistance from European Community and Government of FRG, UK and Switzerland; and

(iv) Promotion of foreign direct investment in India by private enterprises in the form of joint ventures through the European Community International Investment Partner Scheme for which Agreements have recently been signed.

Sinking of Ship in MID Sea at Karaikal Coast, Pondicherry

3729. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have information regarding a speed boat which reportedly came and picked up the captain of the ship seized in mid-sea off Karaikal coast in Pondicherry;

(b) if so, the details and the factual position regarding the incident;

(c) whether a smaller boat which was also apprehended sank into the sea; and

(d) if so, the circumstances leading to its sinking?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d). The Indian Navy apprehended two foreign vessels on the night of 7/8th November, 1991, after hot pursuit which started 10.5 nautical miles off the coat of Karaikal. While the vessels were being toward to the mainland, the smaller one sank due to excessive ingress of water from a leak, not detected at the time of apprehension. The other vessel was found to be carrying certain items bound for Jaffna in Sri Lanka, apparently for use by the LTTE for preparing explosives. The documents seized from the vessel indicated a definite linkage with the LTTE.

Government are not aware of the Captain of any of the captured vessels having been picked up by a speed boat.

[*Translation*]

Radars for Central Ordnance Depot, Agra

3730. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether three radars procurred for the Central Ordnance depot at Agra are working efficiently;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e). No redars have been procured for th central Ordnance